Army's objection to Cellular Phone in N.E.

*339. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an objection from the Army to deployment of cellular phone in most of the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the regions/States where such objection/ban has been imposed by Army to the deployment of cellular phone?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) For security reasons, the Army has some reservations about the use of cellular phones in the militancy affected States of Assam, Manipur, Nagaland and Tripura. However, at present cellular services are available at Guwahati and Shillong.

Historical Article taken away by the Army during Operation Blue Star

*340. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some historical books, paintings and other material taken away by Army during Operation Blue Star in 1984 from Golden Temple Library, had been handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) by the Army Authorities as reported in the 'Tribune' dated May 25, 2000;

(b) if so, the details of articles still lying with the CBI;

(c) whether Government propose to return all such articles to Golden Temple Library in near future; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) CBI reported that several items handed over to them by the Army authorities which included books and paintings were returned to the representatives of Shiromani

Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee (SGPC) by the CBI, in accordance with a list prepared by the SGPC, on 13.10.1989, 20.6.1990 and 28.12.1990, in pursuance of the orders of the Court. 117 items which were seditious in natural were destroyed after obtaining the orders of the Court. Nine items were submitted alongwith the chargesheets, one of which was destroyed by the Court. Nine torn one rupee notes were deposited in the Reserve Bank of India, while 1850 Iranian Rials were handed over to the CBI Museum. One diary of Rachhpal Singh was deposited in the Court of Special Judge, Bhagalpur in a case against Shri S.S. Mann. One file containing certain letters, is still with the Investigation Officer of Case RC.3/83-CIU.III against Shri Jagjit Singh Chouhan. Following five items are with the CBI:

(i) A magazine "Sant Sipahi" for the month of May, 1984.

(ii) File containing various letter etc. total 49 sheets.

(iii) Diary of Balwinder Singh, Khojkipur for 1983.

(iv) Annual Report of All India Sikh Student Federation dt. 20.9.1983.

(v) Arms lic. No. 926/Aug/Amritsar of Shri Chanan Singh.

CBI do not have any book or painting which were handed over to it by the Army authorities. The only items in the custody of the CBI now are as mentioned at S.Nos. (i) to (v) above, plus one file with the I.O. of case RC 3/83-CIU.III.

Community development schemes by Bharat Coking Coal Limited

2481. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) under the community development schemes against the funds allocated during 1998-99 and 1999-2000;

(b) the amount spent for execution of work in Palamu district under the above scheme;

(c) the progress of work till date;